

Voucher News

A Newsletter for San Diego County Housing Authority Rental Assistance Program Participants

Spring /Summer 2007

On-line Waiting List Application System

Applicants to our Section 8 rental assistance waiting list can apply on-line. They can also make changes to their existing waiting list applications.

This secure system is available 24 hours a day to anyone with Internet access. The online waiting list system is accessed at www.sdhcd.org.

Violence Against Women Act 2005 (VAWA)

VAWA affords rights to victims of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking who are applicants or participants of the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program.

VAWA places restrictions on evictions from Section 8-assisted housing, and denial or termination of Section 8 benefits for violations of the lease or family obligations due to a household member being a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.

For more information, contact the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) at 202-307-6026 or visit the DOJ website at www.usdoj.gov/ovw,

HUD Healthy Homes Campaign

HUD is conducting the "Healthy Homes for Healthy Kids" campaign, a three-year, 30-city outreach effort to inform parents about health and safety hazards in the home. This can include lead paint, mold, moisture, and pests like mice and cockroaches. For more information about the campaign, please call (212) 542-7411 or view on-line at www.hud.gov.

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the HUD Hot Line at (800) 669-9777.

Things to Know

- → The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) System is now used to verify and confirm income information directly from a central data source. This system is used to confirm that income is reported. Action is taken if income is unreported or underreported.
- → Don't forget to put the proper amount of postage on any returned mail.
- → To preserve confidential information, the family summary is mailed on request.
- → If you are self-employed, you must summarize your records by income and expenses and provide a copy of your last federal income tax return.
- → A housing quality standards inspector will be conducting your inspection. The inspector cannot answer questions about your case. Make sure your unit is ready for the inspection and you are home at the designated time.
- → Additions to the household are restricted. Do not let anyone move in until you get permission. Most additions are limited to two people per year. Adults added to the household must have a steady income history. New program admissions have a 12-month restriction on additions to the household.
- → Medical expense claims for elderly/disabled households must be submitted in good order. Claims must be legible and have all information necessary.
- → Families with zero income or little income must provide a monthly statement on how they are meeting their needs, along with monthly expense receipts.
- → A new Student Rule means school financial aid may be counted as income.
- → Assistance cannot be transferred more than once every twelve months.
- → Families may be required to repay all housing assistance payments made during the time they violated program requirements.
- → The income of a spouse who is reported to have moved out of the assisted household cannot be omitted until a legal separation or divorce has been filed.
- → Send **copies** of your documents! We are not responsible for original documents.
- → Information on tenant-landlord law can be found at www.nolo.com or on the California Department of Consumer Affairs website at www.dca.ca.gov/

Questions? Contact your housing representative or check our website at: www.sdhcd.org.

Read the Important Information on the Reverse Side

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

We need you to serve on our Boards! The Section 8 Rental Assistance and Public Housing Programs are required to have a resident advisory board comprised of program participants. Two participants must also serve two-year terms on the Board of Commissioners. The Commissioners are <u>paid</u> for each meeting they attend and serve along with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. To be a Commissioner, you must first serve on the resident advisory board.



<u>If you are interested</u> in serving on the resident advisory board, have transportation, and are able to attend at least two meetings a year, please complete the information below and return in your recert packet. We hope you are willing to serve.

If you have any questions, please contact your housing representative. You will be contacted regarding this application during the next 12 months.

Print Name		
Home Address		
City/Zip		
Phone:	Housing Representative:	
What are your principal areas of interest in	serving our community?	
What employment or other experience or s		
Signature	Date	

Return this in your packet to your Housing Representative.

Note to Housing Representative - please forward to Manuel Galvan

Read the Important Information on the Reverse Side